

# OREGON CROP WEATHER



**NATIONAL  
AGRICULTURAL  
STATISTICS  
SERVICE**

**USDA, NASS, Oregon Field Office**

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**Weather:** Mostly warm and dry conditions for the week, with minimal spots of precipitation in various parts of the State. There was off and on cloud coverage with some cooler temperatures early in the week. Low temperatures ranged from 35 degrees in Christmas Valley to 56 degrees in Portland. High temperatures ranged from 66 degrees in Crescent City to 99 degrees in Ontario and Rome. The average temperature across the State of 66.7 degrees was 1.2 degrees below normal. The average precipitation level was 0.08 inches below normal this week, with an average across the State of 0.11 inches. Only 12 of the 43 stations reported a measurable amount of precipitation. Worden reported the highest amount of precipitation of 0.51 inches, followed by Christmas Valley with 0.29 inches.

**Field Crops:** Grain crops were turning color as they continued to mature. Wheat harvest in the western part of the State was expected to begin soon. Wheat harvest in the eastern part of the State continued as growers selected the driest fields for harvest. Some spring wheat was harvested in Umatilla County. Grass seed harvest continued. Grass and alfalfa hay second cuttings continued, with good to excellent quality reported. Potatoes were blooming.

**Vegetables:** All vegetables were doing well with warmer weather, however still about 2 to 3 weeks behind normal development stages. Weeding continued. Sweet corn was

growing rapidly, may catch-up to early plantings. Green bean harvest started in Clackamas County.

**Fruits and Nuts:** Spotted Wing Drosophila made an aggressive attack on soft fruits in Douglas County. Those who did not apply insecticide really suffered. The filbert trees were loaded with nuts. Blackberries and raspberries were being harvested, and wild blackberries started to ripen. Marionberries started to mold with the moisture in Clackamas County. Rain damaged cherry orchards in Wasco and Hood River, and cherry fruit fly was seen in Lane County. Harvest of tart and sweet cherries continued, but the crop is less this year. Grapes were doing well, catching up.

**Nurseries and Greenhouses:** Greenhouses were still doing clean up, maintenance and getting ready for fall activities. Nurseries were busy with care of new stock, with lots of watering, and feeding.

**Livestock, Range and Pasture:** In most areas, pasture conditions remained good. More livestock continued to be moved onto pastures in southwestern Oregon. All livestock were now on irrigated pastures in Jackson County. In Washington County, pastures were drying, and supplemental feeding was required.

**Soil Moisture - Week Ending 07/31/11**

	<b>Very short</b>	<b>Short</b>	<b>Adequate</b>	<b>Surplus</b>
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Topsoil	5	43	51	1
Subsoil	3	35	60	2

**Crop Condition - Week Ending 07/31/11**

<b>Crop</b>	<b>Very poor</b>	<b>Poor</b>	<b>Fair</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>Excellent</b>
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Winter wheat	0	2	17	61	20
Spring wheat	0	1	19	62	18
Barley	0	0	29	57	14
Corn	0	3	30	66	1
Range and pasture	6	11	29	46	8

**Crop Progress - Week Ending 07/31/11**

<b>Crop</b>	<b>This week</b>	<b>Last week</b>	<b>Last year</b>	<b>5 year average</b>
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Alfalfa hay, second cutting	42	15	72	84
Winter wheat harvested	18	7	38	56
Barley harvested	12	5	28	43
Spring wheat headed	90	86	99	100
Spring wheat harvested	7	2	34	45
Days suitable for fieldwork	6.9	6.2	6.7	6.8

## Western Oregon

**CLACKAMAS:** Cool cloudy mornings early in the week gave way to normal summer days by the weekend. Grass seed harvest was going slow, still swathing and not much combining. Green bean harvest had started. Red raspberries were about done. Marionberries were still going but with mold problems due to so much moisture. Cool season grasses were still growing, baled some excellent quality second cutting grass hay off dryland hill fields.

**COOS/CURRY:** Very dry, sunny, windy, and warm. The only good forage now was on slopes with seep water or sub-irrigated fields. Low temperatures were near the 5-year average in both Brookings (southern Curry) and at in Bandon (Coos County). High temperatures through the week were about just below the 5-year average in Bandon, and nearly 6 degrees above the 5-year average in southern Curry. No precipitation for the period in either Coos or Curry. Some cattle shipped the end of the week and more continued moving on to pastures as the grazing conditions continued good. Poor conditions for cutting/baling regular grass in some areas due to persistent fog & low clouds in the mornings, but some moved to barns mid-week throughout the area. There were 7 days suitable for field work during the period. Bandon (Coos & Northern Curry): Low temperature for the period was 50.41 degrees, which is 0.3 degrees above the 5-year average. High temperature for the period was 66.96 degrees, 0.13 degrees below the 5-year average. Precipitation for the period was 0.0 inches, which is 0.04 inches below the 5-year average for the week. Weather year 2011 (began 10/1/2010) precipitation stands at 53.33 inches, 1.71 inches below the 5-year average. Historical average precipitation through the month of July is 57.92 inches. Brookings (Southern Curry): Low temperature for the period was 51.16 degrees, 0.24 degrees above the 5-year average. High temperature for the period was 78.3 degrees, 5.86 degrees above the 5-year average. Precipitation for the period was 0.01 inches, compared to a 5-year average of 0.01 inches. Weather year 2011 (began 10/1/2010) precipitation stands at 89.57 inches, 8.3 inches above the 5-year average. Historical average precipitation through July is 70.49 inches.

**DOUGLAS:** A dry, warm week had crops growing well. Still about 2 to 3 weeks behind normal development stages for wine grapes, tree fruit and nuts, and vegetable crops. This year the Spotted Wing Drosophila had made an aggressive attack on all soft fruits in Douglas County. Any grower of blueberries, cherries, strawberries and caneberries had found out they need to spray to control the pest. Most growers who had not used insecticides had lost large portions of their fruit crops. U-pick operations and small farms that do not use insecticides had suffered the most in the past. Any fruit crop that had been allowed to stay on the tree a little too long had been infested. Yields and production numbers for all these crops would be down by 30-40 percent. The filbert crop in Douglas County looked like would be a very large one. Trees were loaded and the spring rains kept soil moisture levels recharged well into summer so the trees will be able to fill the nuts.

**JACKSON:** This had been another hot dry week. Still some fields of grass hay had not been cut. Grain crops were looking good, and starting to ripen. Some haying continued, mostly 2nd cuttings of alfalfa. Apples and pears were looking okay, but maybe a little less fruit than normal. Blueberries were being harvested. Tame blackberries and raspberries were being harvested. Wild blackberries were starting to ripen. Some early vegetable plantings were now ready, but most were still about 2 weeks behind since we had a cold wet spring. Weeding continued on vegetable crops. Greenhouses were still doing clean-up and maintenance. Nurseries were busy with

care of new stock, with lots of watering, and feeding. All livestock were now on irrigated pastures, and were looking quite good. With the fair last week, folks were busy with catch-up on their work.

**JOSEPHINE:** Overnight temperatures ranged from 50 degrees to 60 degrees. Daytime temperatures ranged from 80 degrees to 93 degrees. There were drying winds and very low humidity. Harvesting of blueberries was on-going at local farms. Grapes continued to mature. Summer squash and tomatoes were at truck gardens. Watering was principle occupation. Perennial weeds, deep rooted were showing stress now.

**LANE:** Southern Willamette Valley grass seed harvest continued, yields reported average to above average. Most crops still appeared to be 1-2 weeks late. Irrigation was in full swing on all specialty seed crops, row crops, and peppermint. Cherries were split by rain, up to 50 percent. Apples and pears were sizing, finally. Peaches had a down crop. Apples were mediocre. Pears were okay. Strawberries had a good crop. Raspberries were lighter than normal year, poor pollination. Just started picking blueberries, huge crop. Blackberries had a huge crop. Spotted wing drosophila was found along River Road, as it was last year. Levels seem to be down at this point. There were fewer codling moths and filbertworms. Cherry fruit fly showed up two weeks ago and this week.

**LINN:** The sun had finally come out for the Willamette Valley; the warm up made it possible for the crops to dry and harvest to start. Some grass seed producers had reported yields will be lower than past years due to the past week's rain. They were able to begin harvesting fields. Wheat had appeared to have possible moisture damage due to fields turning dark, along with the risk of sprout. Harvest shall start soon for wheat.

**MARION:** Summer seemed to have arrived as temperatures warmed into the 80's. Grass seed harvest was underway with a lot of swathing continuing and combining starting at full pace. Meadowfoam and crimson clover were combined this week. Red clover was in full bloom.

**WASHINGTON:** Winter wheat turned color and was looking good. Crimson clover mostly harvested, yield down due to wet spring. Red clover was blooming well and second cutting alfalfa was in barn. Tall fescue was in full swing. Grass seed and clover prices are up from last year. All annual crops are late in maturing. Blueberries, blackberries, and raspberries were being harvested. Grapes were doing well. Filberts and walnuts were sizing. Sweet corn was growing rapidly; it may even catch early plantings. There were some harvest worries. All vegetables were doing well with the warmer weather. Greenhouses were getting ready for fall. Pastures were drying, and supplemental feeding was required. High temperature 82 degrees, low 47 degrees, no measurable precipitation.

**YAMHILL:** Tall Fescue grass seed harvest started. Perennial rye grass was still too wet to even swath. Grapes were catching up nicely. Winter wheat harvest possibly to start next week even before the perennial rye grass. Crimson clover seed does not seem to have been affected by the rains as much as thought. Red clover was in bloom. Filbertworm moth catches had been slow to come this season. Growers may be able to get by with one well timed spray in August. Sweet cherry harvest in the higher elevations was near completion. Tart cherry harvest continued. Early peach harvest was underway.

## Eastern Oregon

**CROOK:** Second cutting alfalfa hay harvest had started. Winter wheat color was changing more rapidly and spring wheat was starting to turn. Had a hay barley field diagnosed with barley yellow dwarf virus (BYDV) and Pythium root rot. A few winter wheat fields observed had the take-all disease this week. Weather had still been cooler than average, but this week was warmer and should help with hay harvest.

**HARNEY:** Weather was very hot on Saturday and Sunday (100 + degrees). No appreciable amounts of precipitation were received in the County. Favorable conditions persisted for cattle grazing in mid to high elevation rangeland pastures. Reports of clear-winged grasshopper infestations were taken from forage growers and cattle grazers in parts of the County. Scouts were dispatched to those areas to investigate if grasshopper populations were of potential economic significance.

**HOOD RIVER:** Relatively cool temperatures with rain to start the week gave way to warm, dry, summer conditions by midweek, lasting through the weekend. The rain caused damage to some cherry orchards. Cherry harvest was well underway in the lower and middle Hood River Valley. Hand thinning of apples and routine summer orchard operations continued throughout the Valley.

**KLAMATH:** More heat during this past week, but the cool weather this spring and summer has been favorable for grass growth and condition. A late first cutting of alfalfa, due to cooler spring weather, had pushed the second cutting back as well. Lots of second cutting

alfalfa was still being baled. Potatoes were blooming and some grain was turning. Irrigation continued. High temperatures were in the high 80's and low 90's.

**LAKE:** First cutting of alfalfa was just being completed in some areas of the County. Spring moisture/cool temperatures delayed harvest. Pasture conditions remained good in most areas of the County.

**SHERMAN:** Grain harvest picked up in bits and pieces as early cutters searched for dry spots and south slopes to begin. Still a slow start but thanks to warm temperatures, expected a big acreage to get started next week. May be late week before anything cut in central part. Much of south end was still 10 to 14 days away from harvest. Early yields and quality reports had been pleasing. Cool even temperatures also mean getting a late start each morning so days are shorter, but some were getting around by cutting after elevators close and filling the trucks so they can start each morning at the elevators doors when they open.

**WASCO:** Last Monday's rain did catch a lot of cherries and caused considerable cracks and splits. Amounts vary depending on location and variety. This year's cherry harvest was a grab bag of ups and downs. Wheat harvest started up in earnest and should be in full swing at least in the Columbia district. Yields were very good in the surrounding basin areas and promise to be very good here as well. Second cutting of hay was mostly down and looked good as well.

**Weather data for selected stations in Oregon, Week ending: July 31, 2011 (as of 11:00 am) <sup>1</sup>**

Station	Air temperature <sup>2</sup>				Growing degree days <sup>3</sup>		Last week precip. <sup>4</sup>			Season cum. precipitation <sup>5</sup>			
	Low	High	Avg.	DFN <sup>6</sup>	Total	DFN <sup>6</sup>	Total inches	DFN <sup>6</sup>	Days <sup>7</sup>	Total inches	DFN <sup>6</sup>	Pct. normal	Days <sup>7</sup>
<b>COASTAL AREAS</b>													
Astoria	52	68	61	+1	78	+1	0.07	-0.14	3	82.73	17.66	127	223
Bandon <sup>8</sup>	50	67	59	+1	66	+3	-	-0.08	-	55.13	-2.79	95	202
Crescent City	48	66	58	-2	56	-6	0.04	-0.05	2	64.81	0.56	101	157
Florence	43	72	58	-3	58	-17	0.03	-0.13	1	80.57	5.46	107	207
North Bend	48	70	59	-2	65	-5	-	-0.09	-	47.98	-14.36	77	150
Tillamook	46	70	61	+3	80	+17	-	-0.28	-	80.46	-6.41	93	201
<b>WILLAMETTE VALLEY</b>													
Aurora <sup>8</sup>	51	85	67	+0	120	+1	0.01	-0.13	1	51.28	11.18	128	193
Corvallis	51	85	67	+2	123	+5	-	-0.13	-	45.82	3.99	110	193
Detroit Lake <sup>8</sup>	49	88	67	+4	123	+25	-	-0.18	-	99.47	33.21	150	204
Eugene	50	87	68	-2	123	-3	-	-0.13	-	39.89	-8.40	83	155
Hillsboro	47	84	65	-2	107	-11	0.04	-0.10	1	39.79	3.29	109	181
McMinnville	49	86	67	+0	120	+1	-	-0.08	-	44.49	2.04	105	176
Portland	56	84	68	-1	130	-3	0.01	-0.13	1	47.25	12.04	134	182
Salem	53	86	69	+2	132	+13	-	-0.09	-	47.67	9.27	124	170
<b>SW VALLEYS</b>													
Grants Pass	52	95	71	-2	151	-8	-	-0.07	-	41.91	11.38	137	150
Medford	53	95	74	+0	171	+3	-	-0.07	-	21.92	3.58	120	115
Roseburg	53	88	70	+1	144	+5	-	-0.07	-	38.39	6.32	120	163
<b>NORTH CENTRAL</b>													
Condon	45	91	67	+0	120	+1	-	-0.10	-	17.78	4.44	133	136
Echo <sup>8</sup>	50	94	73	-2	163	-5	-	-0.07	-	12.63	4.07	148	120
Heppner	47	92	69	-2	132	-8	-	-0.07	-	18.57	5.35	140	129
Hermiston	50	95	73	-2	164	-4	-	-0.07	-	13.05	4.49	152	115
Madras <sup>8</sup>	45	91	66	-2	114	-12	-	-0.08	-	11.28	1.40	114	112
Moro	47	93	68	-1	128	-5	-	-0.07	-	14.91	4.26	140	103
Parkdale <sup>8</sup>	44	86	64	-5	98	-28	0.15	0.08	2	46.33	16.10	153	173
Pendleton	49	93	71	-4	146	-22	-	-0.07	-	17.70	6.21	154	128
Prairie City <sup>8</sup>	45	91	66	-2	114	-12	-	-0.08	-	11.28	1.40	114	112
The Dalles	54	93	74	+7	166	+42	0.09	0.02	1	15.08	3.07	126	115
<b>SOUTH CENTRAL</b>													
Agency Lake <sup>8</sup>	43	89	65	+0	104	+6	-	-0.08	-	17.56	2.10	114	107
Bend	43	89	65	+1	105	+7	-	-0.11	-	7.80	-3.32	70	54
Burns	39	94	66	-3	113	-6	-	-0.10	-	15.09	5.79	162	123
Christmas Valley <sup>8</sup>	35	93	64	-7	98	-38	0.29	0.19	1	10.16	-1.62	86	128
Klamath Falls	43	91	67	-3	118	-14	-	-0.08	-	10.58	-2.30	82	84
Klamath Falls <sup>8</sup>	45	91	67	-3	120	-12	-	-0.08	-	13.26	0.38	103	114
Lakeview <sup>8</sup>	43	90	66	-3	110	-15	-	-0.07	-	15.81	0.73	105	126
Lorella <sup>8</sup>	40	92	65	-4	109	-23	-	-0.08	-	13.69	0.81	106	115
Redmond	40	93	66	-2	109	-10	-	-0.10	-	11.20	3.18	140	88
Worden <sup>8</sup>	43	88	64	-5	101	-31	0.51	0.43	1	12.86	-0.02	100	100
<b>NORTHEAST</b>													
Baker City	39	92	64	-5	99	-27	-	-0.14	-	13.21	3.28	133	125
Joseph	46	90	65	+5	108	+31	-	-0.17	-	15.88	-7.85	67	130
La Grande	43	91	67	-5	123	-23	-	-0.14	-	17.97	1.45	109	138
Imbler <sup>8</sup>	43	92	66	-2	115	-11	-	-0.14	-	21.95	-0.65	97	150
<b>SOUTHEAST</b>													
Ontario	52	99	76	-2	187	-2	0.02	-0.04	1	12.06	2.82	131	99
Rome	45	99	74	+1	167	+6	0.01	-0.06	1	14.32	6.53	184	102

<sup>1</sup> Summary based on NWS data. Copyright 2011: AWIS, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

<sup>2</sup> Air temperature in degrees Fahrenheit.

<sup>3</sup> Growing degree days base-50 degrees Fahrenheit.

<sup>4</sup> Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.

<sup>5</sup> Season cumulative precipitation starts September 1, 2010.

<sup>6</sup> DFN=Departure from normal (using 1961-1990 normal period).

<sup>7</sup> Precipitation days = Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more.

<sup>8</sup> Agri-Met weather stations.